

Vernon County Parks Ordinance

The Vernon County Board of Supervisors of Vernon County, Wisconsin, do ordain as follows:

73-2.1 ORDINANCE NAME

This set of regulations shall be known as the **Vernon County Parks Ordinance** and shall apply to all Vernon County Parks and other lands administered by the Parks Committee of the County Board.

73-2.1.1. SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed severable, and it is expressly declared that the County Board of Supervisors of Vernon County would have passed any other provisions of the Ordinance irrespective of whether or not one or more provisions may be declared invalid and if any provision of this Ordinance of the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the Ordinance and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be effected thereby.

73-2.2. CLOSING TIMES

All Vernon County parks will be closed to the public from 11:00 P.M. until 4:00 A.M. each and every day except that:

- A. Special permission may be obtained from the Committee or its authorized agent.
- B. Special closing times may be established in selected areas of various parks as is deemed necessary by the Committee.
- C. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to be in any County Park during the time they are closed to the public unless they have written permission from the committee or its authorized agent.

73-2.2.2. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

It shall be unlawful for any person to consume any intoxicating liquor or fermented malt beverages in any County Park at any time between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 8:00 A.M. (June 26, 1979)

73-2.2.3. PENALTY

Any person violating any section of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction, forfeit not more than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00), together with taxable costs and restitution for any damages, and in default of payment of such forfeiture and costs, may be imprisoned in the Vernon County Jail until such forfeiture and costs are paid but not to exceed ninety (90) days.

73-2.2.4. BONDS

Nothing in this Ordinance shall be constructed to limit the right of the proper authorities to accept bail bonds, deposits or certificates of money deposits or to release a violator on his own bond as provided in any sections of the Wisconsin Statutes.

73-2.3 DESTROYING OR DEFACING PROPERTY

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to disturb, molest, deface, remove, destroy any trees, shrubs, plants, or other natural growth, to carve on or otherwise deface any rocks, signs, walls, or other structures, to drive nails into any trees, or to injure or deface in any manner any park buildings, signs, fences, tables, fireplaces, or other public property.

73-2.4. PROPERTY OF OTHERS

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to disturb, molest, destroy or remove the property or personal effects of others while on the lands under the control of the Committee.

73.2.5. REFUSE AND TRASH

It shall be unlawful for an person or persons to dispose of any garbage, bottles, cans, paper or any other waste material, in any manner except by placing such in receptacles provided for such purpose or to dump any such refuse on County Park lands. The throwing of bottles, cans, garbage, sewage or any other waste materials into lakes or streams within the boundaries of County Parks is likewise prohibited. It shall be unlawful to clean fish or other game animals on picnic tables. Fish and game entrails must be disposed of in a proper manner.

73-2.6 DOGS

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to allow dogs to run at large at any time within the boundaries of County Park lands or at campsites, except hunting dogs, legally used during established hunting seasons and in areas not otherwise restricted to hunting.
- B. Dogs shall not be allowed within two hundred feet of any shelter or building intended for use by persons visiting the park.
- C. Persons with dogs in County Parks shall clean up and properly dispose of feces immediately.

73-2.7. FIRES

It shall be unlawful for any persons to build any campfires or bonfires on any County Park lands except at designated fireplaces; or to throw any cigarettes, cigars, pipe ashes or matches without first extinguishing them. Burning of garbage, trash or other refuse shall be unlawful at any time.

73-2.8 SAFETY

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to engage in any activity which is inherently unsafe to lives, health, or property of others while in or on County Park lands. No person shall drive any automobile, truck, motorcycle, snowmobile or other motorized vehicle in a reckless manner nor at a speed in excess of 25 miles per hour, unless slower speeds are designated and posted by the Committee on any roads or trails in County Park lands. It shall further be unlawful to operate any unauthorized equipment as described above except on roads or trails designated for such use.

73-2.9 UNNECESSARY NOISE

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to operate any sound trucks, loudspeakers or other mechanical devices which produce undue or unnecessary noise without written permission of the Committee or its authorized agent.

73-2.10. HANDBILLS OR ADVERTISING

It shall be unlawful to distribute handbills or other advertising matter or to post such matter within County Park lands.

73-2.11. PARKING

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to park or leave unattended any automobiles, trucks, trailers, wagons, motorcycles, boat trailers or other similar equipment except in areas designated for such purpose nor to drive any vehicles anywhere on Park lands not designated for such use.

73-2.12. FIREARMS, HUNTING AND TRAPPING

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to have in their possession or under their control any firearm of any kind including any bow unless the same is unloaded and within a carrying case from April 15 to October 15, except during legally established hunting seasons prior to April 15 and after October 15, and then only in such areas as are not posted to such use for reasons of safety.
- B. The Committee may establish target ranges within County Park lands where use of firearms may be authorized.
- C. It shall be unlawful to hunt, trap or otherwise disturb any bird or animal, or its nest or den, on any Park lands at any time, except in such cases and means as shall be designated by the Committee or State or Federal regulation.
- D. Except hunting shall be allowed in Duck Egg from October 15 to May 15.

73-2.13. PERSONAL CONDUCT

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to be intoxicated or otherwise conduct themselves in a disorderly manner within the boundaries of any County Park or County owned lands.

73-2.14. PERMITS AND FEES

- A. A camping permit is required to remain in designated camping areas from 4:00 P.M. to 5:00 A.M. Permits shall be obtained from the Committee or its authorized agents. Fees for camping and other uses shall be established from time to time by the Committee and posted in the County Parks as necessary.
- B. Any of the following groups is to be considered a "camp unit" and must register and pay the required fee in all designated camp areas:
 - a. A single tent;
 - b. Two connected tents used by one family unit;
 - c. A single trailer, equipped to be lived or slept in
 - d. A single car, truck or bus or other vehicle used for living or sleeping quarters;
 - e. A sleeping bag, hammock or similar device used for sleeping with no other shelter;
 - f. Any special situation regarding "camp units" not covered in the above will be handled by the Committee or its agent.
- C. All "camp units" as defined above are required to register with the Committee or its agent. Permits issued are to be affixed to the "camp unit" in such a manner as to be visible to the committee or its authorized agent at all times.
- D. Campers may remain in a camp area for a fixed period of time, such time to be determined by the Committee and posted in the Parks.
- E. Campers will be permitted to camp only in designated area.

- F. Unoccupied "camp units" will accumulate time and pay fees in the same manner as occupied sites and are affected by the regulation on limit of stay as previously stated. The Vernon County Park Ordinance shall apply to all campers and camping activities.

73-2.15. BOATING

- C. The use of internal combustion motors is prohibited on all inland waters under the control of the County except the Kickapoo River. Electric motors are restricted to one per boat or canoe, and not to exceed (12) volts.
- D. Persons using or operating boats in, on or from lands or waters within County Parks shall abide by all State and Federal laws as adopted, as well as provisions of this ordinance.
- E. Boats shall be launched at special launch sites provided except that light boats, canoes or kayaks may be launched at other locations provided that the craft shall be carried from the nearest legal driving or parking point.
- F. Mooring of boats, of any kind, within County Park lands, shall be done only with written permission of the Committee or its authorized agents. Permissible mooring sites may be designated and fees charged may be established from time to time by the Committee as they deem necessary. Such information shall be posted in locations where it applies.

73-2.16. SWIMMING –RECREATION

Swimming or other recreational activities, including such things as baseball, softball, horseshoe pitching, etc. shall be subject to regulation of the Committee. Such regulations established shall be posted in the parks and areas where applicable.

73-2.17. HORSES AND PONIES

The use of horses and ponies is prohibited in areas where it will be in conflict with swimming, camping, picnicking or other assembly of people. Such uses shall be limited to roads, trails or other areas designated for their use. Horses and ponies shall be controlled at all times and shall not be ridden at excessive speed or in a reckless manner so as to endanger the lives, health, or property of others.

73-2.18. DEFINITIONS

- A. COMMITTEE – Shall mean the Parks Committee of the County Board;
- B. AUTHORIZED AGENT – Shall mean Park Manager or Maintenance man, concessionaire, or other employee responsible to the Committee; or the County Clerk.

This ordinance approved: February 23, 1999